#### Merl Rosenthal

Waste Isolation Pilot Plant
Westinghouse Electric Corporation
Carlsbad, New Mexico
Chairmen, WIPP Lessons Learned
Committee

#### Location of WIPP

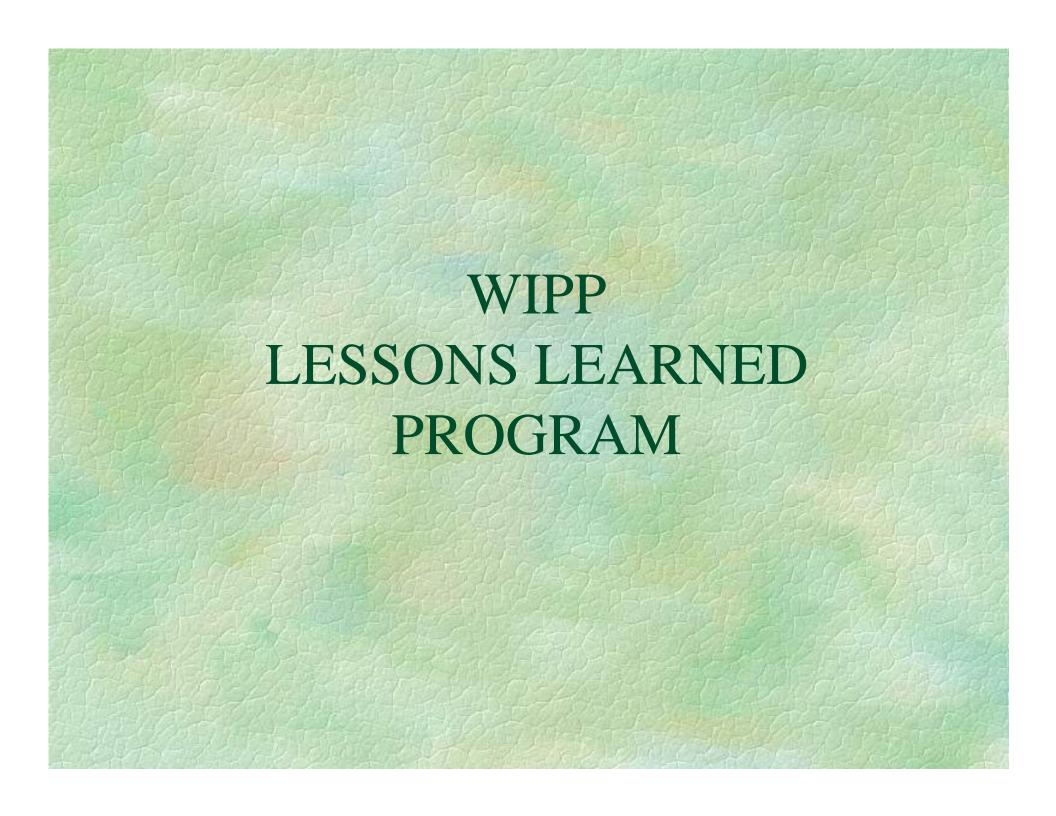
- Located in southeastern New Mexico, 26 miles east of Carlsbad, New Mexico
- Waste is stored in disposal rooms excavated in ancient stable salt formations
- Waste is stored 2,150 feet underground

### Purpose of WIPP

- Designed to permanently dispose of defensegenerated transuranic radioactive waste from research and production of nuclear weapons
- Transuranic waste consists of clothing, tools, rags, debris, residues and other disposable items contaminated with radioactive elements, mostly plutonium
- Approximately 120 shipments have been received year-to-date

#### Additional information

For more information about WIPP, call 1-800-366-9477, or visit our web site at http://www.wipp.carlsbad.nm.us



# Purpose of Lessons Learned Program

Distribute applicable Lessons Learned bulletins to WIPP Department managers to improve plant safety and reliability

### Lessons Learned Working Group

- Lessons Learned Working Group consists of representatives from the following departments:
  - Quality Assurance
  - Environment, Safety, and Health
  - Engineering
  - Human Resources
  - Operations/Maintenance

### Lessons Learned Working Group (continued)

- Members have expertise in respective areas and WIPP processes
- Representatives serve a minimum of six months
- Lessons Learned Working Group reports to the Environment, Safety, and Health manager
- Source document for Lessons Learned Working Group is Management Charter (MC) 9.20, Rev. 1, Lessons Learned Working Group

#### Lessons Learned Sources

- Lessons Learned Bulletins are developed from information contained in:
  - Nuclear Regulatory Commission Bulletins/Notices
  - DOE Safety Notices
  - External ORPS Reports
  - Internal ORPS Reports
  - DOE List Server Reports
  - MSHA Fatal Grams
  - Responsible Manager and Facility Manager Designee Investigative Reports

## Reviewing Lessons Learned Material

- Lessons Learned Material is reviewed for applicability by the Lessons Learned Working Group
- Lessons Learned material is deemed applicable if it meets the following criteria:
  - Contains information having potential or immediate impact on plant equipment
  - Poses impact to safety and health of facility personnel
  - Identifies good work practices
  - Information that may have implications to WIPP Operations

## Developing Lessons Learned Bulletins

- One page Lessons Learned Bulletins are developed from material deemed applicable
- Lessons Learned Bulletin consists of:
  - Brief description of event
  - Cause of event
  - Lesson to be learned
  - Applicable references

## Distributing Lessons Learned Bulletins

- Lessons Learned Bulletins are distributed to WIPP department managers via hardcopy
- WIPP department managers distribute applicable Lessons Learned Bulletins though their Required Reading Program

#### FEEDBACK

- Feedback form accompanies all Lessons Learned Bulletins
  - Feedback form measures the effectiveness of the Lessons Learned Program
- The department manager indicates the action taken by completing the feedback form
  - Lessons Learned Bulletin applicable
  - Placed in Required Reading
  - Change Made to Procedure
  - Change Made to Equipment Design
  - Change Made to Personnel Qualification Requirements
  - Cost Avoidance
  - Change in Training Requirements
  - Other
- Feedback form is returned to the Lessons Learned Working Group Chairmen

### Summary

- Approximately 3000 Lessons Learned materials reviewed during year
- Approximately 190 Lessons Learned developed from the Lessons Learned material
- Approximately 80% of the Lessons Learned Bulletins distributed to department managers deemed applicable
- Approximately 95% of Lessons Learned Bulletins placed in Required Reading Programs